

Application No. 10/749,171

REMARKS

Claims 1-27 are pending, and claims 1-26 are allowed. Claim 27 stands rejected. By this Amendment, claim 27 is cancelled. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the rejections based on the following remarks.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

The PTO rejected claim 27 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over EP511 664. Applicant has cancelled claim 27.

Information Disclosure Statement

The PTO has taken the position that the Information Disclosure statement filed 11 April 2006 failed to comply with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(1). Therefore, the Information Disclosure Statement has been placed in the application file, but has not been considered.

Applicant herewith encloses a Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement, providing an English translation of the Japanese-language JIPO Office Action that was presented in the Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement filed on April 6, 2006 and received by the USPTO on April 11, 2006. At that time, an English translation of the JIPO Office Action and therefore, a concise statement of relevance were not available. Applicant has today, June 23, 2006, received an English-language summary of the JIPO Office Action and is promptly providing the summary to the USPTO for consideration. Further, Applicant inadvertently omitted Form PTO-1449 with the Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement filed on April 6, 2006. Applicant herewith encloses Form PTO-1449. Applicant has made a *bona fide* attempt to comply with §1.98 (37 CFR §1.97 (f)).

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CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned if the Examiner believes it would be useful to advance prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,



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